

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend claims 1, 7-8, 13, 22, and 26-28, cancel claims 11 and 23, and add claims 29-37 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A method ~~of setting up a security association between a first node and a second node in a packet switched environment,~~ comprising:

forwarding a prefix value from ~~the a~~ first node to ~~the a~~ second node in a packet switched environment, said prefix value referring to a portion of ~~the a~~ first internet protocol address associated with the first node; and

creating a security association between the first node and the second node based on the prefix value;

wherein the security association is valid for a plurality of different internet protocol addresses, each of said plurality of internet protocol addresses including said portion of the first internet protocol address to which the prefix value refers.

2. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the packet switched environment is a internet protocol multimedia subsystem of a 3rd generation network

3. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first node is user equipment.

4. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the second node is a proxy call state control function entity.

5. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 28, wherein the message is a protocol message

6. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the protocol a session initiation protocol.

7. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim ~~1~~28, wherein the message is a session initiation protocol register message.

8. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim ~~1~~28, wherein the prefix value is included in a header of the message.

9. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the header is a security client header

10. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 9, wherein the prefix value is included in an extension parameter of the security client header.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the prefix value is allocated by a gateway general packet radio service support node.

13. (Currently Amended) A system, comprising:

a first node and a second node in a packet switched environment, wherein the first node is configured to forward ~~its~~ a prefix value in a message to the second node, said prefix value referring to a portion of ~~the~~ a first internet protocol address of the first node~~[[,]]~~; ~~and wherein~~

the second node is configured to create a security association with the first node based on the prefix value;

wherein the security association is valid for a plurality of different internet protocol addresses, each of said plurality of internet protocol addresses including said portion of the first internet protocol address to which the prefix value refers.

14. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 13, wherein the packet switched environment is a internet protocol multimedia subsystem of a 3rd generation network.

15. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 13, wherein the first node is user equipment.

16. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 13, wherein the second node is a proxy call state control function entity.

17. (Original) A system as claimed in claim 13, wherein the message is a protocol message.

18. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 17, wherein the protocol session initiation protocol.

19. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 13, wherein the message is a register message.

20. (Original) A system as claimed in claim 13, wherein the prefix value is included in a header of the message.

21. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 20, wherein the header is a security-client header.

22. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim 21, wherein ~~he~~the prefix value is included in an extension parameter of the security-client header.

23. (Canceled)

24. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 13, wherein the prefix value is allocated to the user equipment by a gateway general packet radio service support node.

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Currently Amended) A communication terminal ~~in a packet switched environment,~~ comprising:

a prefix value to be forwarded to a node in ~~the~~a packet switched environment to create a security association with the communication terminal, said prefix value referring to a portion of ~~the~~a first internet protocol address of the communication terminal;

wherein the security association is valid for a plurality of different internet protocol addresses, each of said plurality of internet protocol addresses including said portion of the first internet protocol address to which the prefix value refers.

27. (Currently Amended) A security association apparatus[[,]] comprising:

a first communication means and a second communication means in a packet switched environment;

forwarding means for forwarding a prefix value in a message from the first communication means to the second communication means, said prefix value referring to a portion of ~~the~~ a first internet protocol address of the first communication means; ~~and~~

creating means for creating a security association between the first communication means and the second communication means based on the prefix value;

wherein the security association is valid for a plurality of different internet protocol addresses, each of said plurality of internet protocol addresses including said portion of the first internet protocol address to which the prefix value refers.

28. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ~~step of~~ forwarding of the prefix value from the first node to the second node, comprises forwarding the prefix value in a message.

29. (New) A communication terminal comprising:

forwarding means for forwarding a prefix value to a node in a packet switched environment to create a security association with the communication terminal, said prefix value referring to a portion of a first internet protocol address of the communication terminal;

wherein the security association is valid for a plurality of different internet protocol addresses, each of said plurality of internet protocol addresses including said portion of the first internet protocol address to which the prefix value refers.

30. (New) A security association apparatus comprising:

a first communication unit and a second communication unit in a packet switched environment;

a forwarding unit configured to forward a prefix value in a message from the first communication unit to the second communication unit, said prefix value referring to a portion of the internet protocol address of the first communication unit; and

a creating unit configured to create a security association between the first communication unit and the second communication unit based on the prefix value;

wherein the security association is valid for a plurality of different internet protocol addresses, each of said plurality of internet protocol addresses including said portion of the first internet protocol address to which the prefix value refers.

31. (New) A second node comprising:

a receiving unit for receiving a prefix value from a first node in a packet switched environment, said prefix value referring to a portion of a first internet protocol address of the first node; and

a creation unit for creating a security association between the first node and the second node based on the prefix value;

wherein the security association is valid for a plurality of different internet protocol addresses, each of said plurality of internet protocol addresses including said portion of the first internet protocol address to which the prefix value refers.

32. (New) A second node comprising:

receiving means for receiving a prefix value from a first node in a packet switched environment, said prefix value referring to a portion of a first internet protocol address of the first node; and

creation means for creating a security association between the first node and the second node based on the prefix value;

wherein the security association is valid for a plurality of different internet protocol addresses, each of said plurality of internet protocol addresses including said portion of the first internet protocol address to which the prefix value refers.

33. (New) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein another of the plurality of internet protocol addresses, in addition to the first internet protocol address, is an internet protocol address of the first node.



34. (New) A system as claimed in claim 13, wherein another of the plurality of internet protocol addresses, in addition to the first internet protocol address, is an internet protocol address of the first node.

35. (New) A communication terminal as claimed in claim 26, wherein another of the plurality of internet protocol addresses, in addition to the first internet protocol address, is an internet protocol address of the first node.

36. (New) A security association apparatus as claimed in claim 30, wherein another of the plurality of internet protocol addresses, in addition to the first internet protocol address, is an internet protocol address of the first node.

37. (New) A second node as claimed in claim 31, wherein another of the plurality of internet protocol addresses, in addition to the first internet protocol address, is an internet protocol address of the first node.